

THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

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Society for Czechoslovak Philately, Inc

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A.P.S. Unit 18

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February 1988

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THE WARTIME CANCELS OF ADOLF BARTOŠIK

By Dr. Miroslav Vostatek — Translated by Mirko L. Vondra

In May 1987, Adolf Bartošík attained his 80th year of life a — fitting tribute to his youthful stamina. Concurrently, Oldrich Večerek died that same month. As founder of the Czechoslovak fieldposts of the Czechoslovak Army in Great Britain, his unfortunate demise leaves A. Bartošík as the lone affiliated survivor of the fieldpost era.

As a teacher, A. Bartošík began to delve into the language of esperanto while serving in Yugoslavia in 1934. When he returned home to Otrokovice, the site of the Bata sports events, he resumed his teaching. Finally, he went to teach Czech school at Einhoven in the Netherlands. To get there, he made his way across Germany in September 1938 — a trip he remembers well. From Einhoven, he moved his whole family including himself to England. It was a last-minute maneuver which succeeded. In England, he joined the Czechoslovak Army. There he was assigned to their planning room where he graphically plotted and planned the movements of troops overseas.

He designed nine cancels for use by the Czechoslovak fieldpost in England. Competition rules had been prescribed for the submission of designs. The prize for each was two pound sterlings. I will identify each of his cancels in their order of submission:

His first was a cancel honoring T. G. Masaryk's birthday — March 7, 1941. In those days, such cancels were bilingual — i.e., Czech and English. At first they read "Czechoslovak Military Post"; later "Czechoslovak Field Post." His second cancel recalled the second anniversary of Czechoslovakia's occupation. It appeared on March 15, 1941, and evoked memories of tragedy and sorrow. Even British newspapers published its picture. In its proper sequence, the third cancel honored the national awakening of Carpatho-Ukraine's Duchnoviče. Though it was made as planned, the cancel, for administrative reasons, was not used. For the sake of completeness, it is mentioned here only as a courtesy item. As the illustration shows, his next theme for a cancel was intended for April 24, 1941. It, too, did not materialize, though its origin makes for interesting speculation. After being produced, it was not used mainly because of developing events. The fourth cancel was designed to commemorate the tragic death of Milan Rastislav Štefanik. The fifth was made for the occasion of President Edward Beneš's birthday, May 28, 1941. The sixth recalled the 23rd anniversary of the Czechoslovak Republic. His seventh honored T. G. Masaryk on the fifth year following his death on October 28, 1941. Considerable interest was aroused

in his eighth cancel which brought to mind the third anniversary of the closing of all schools of higher learning in Czechoslovakia on November 17. Finally, his last cancel commemorated Masaryk's birthday on March 7, 1942. Illustrated below is his cancel dated March 15, 1943, representing the anniversary of his country's occupation by the Nazi. It was no longer required and remained solely as a design proposal.

Most of the cancels in that period served a useful propaganda role. They appeared on thousands of pieces of postal mail, both parcels and envelopes. Interest flourished in England as well as throughout the world in their meaning and message to their countrymen. It bolstered the spirits of troops as well as patriots, making them aware that a long hard struggle lay ahead which could only culminate in their victory.

When discussing and comparing the various cancels, other persons of that era also deserve mention. Along them was the academic painter, Cipra. He was a staff captain who presided at courts marshal. When decisions were rendered, his signature appeared at the bottom of each decree. He enlisted in the first Czechoslovak uprising during World War I. Between the two wars, he was a renowned artist in Paris. When World War II broke out, he again enlisted, this time in his people's second effort to regain independence. I had seen one of his propaganda designs on a postcard with a World War I military motif. But lack of further information about this interesting person has eluded my attempts to uncover more of his wartime art and activities.

Like Cipra, Adolf Bartošik played a small but important role in wartime philatelic developments.



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CHARLEY'S CORNER

I was recently offered an interesting cover of the 30h Hradčany, Scott #47, with the rare line perforation 11½. Naturally I was interested in the cover, so in due time I received it in the mail.

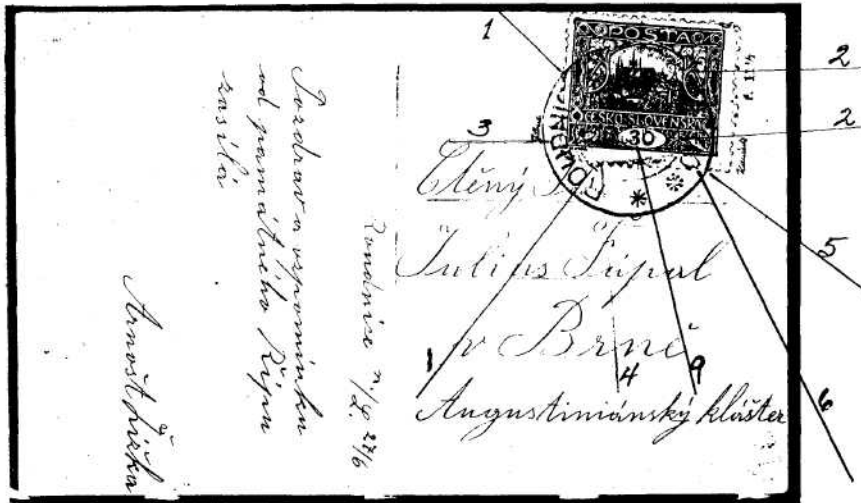
The moment I took a close look at it, somehow it didn't appear right, although it had been expertized by "Gilbert" and "Karásek" ř. 11½. As I started to examine it closely I discovered many flaws in the cancel and determined that it was fake.

For the original Xerox copy, these flaws were not evident and frankly I wasn't even looking. The card had a street scene of Roudnice nad Lebem, one of the towns where this rare perf. was found.

First of all, the stamp is genuine and the rare perf. ř. 11½ is sound and the stamp has been very lightly cancelled (which was often the case) thereby giving the forger enough leeway to perform his "art." What transpired is this: the *original stamp* on the card was removed and the 30h Hradčany was put in its place. A further aid to the forger is that in the message portion the writer wrote only the day and month and not the year date. To find a card like this, so one could do this, must have been quite a task.

I will illustrate the card and point out what I feel are the flaws in the cancel.

Charles Chesloe



1. The stamp is tied to the card in all four intersecting points of the double circle; usually one or more of these points show a small break in the cancel due to the height of the stamp. Note darkening of outer circle at the upper left and lower right on the stamp next to the intersecting points.
2. Cancel does not follow a true circle, the oval becomes elliptical on the stamp indicating two different cancels, on stamp and card.
3. The "U, D, N," and "I" of the cancel are colored in on the stamp and are rather poorly formed, appearing jagged. The "C" is quite visible on the card but abruptly is missing on the stamp. The "E" is completely missing.
4. Bottom perforations above the "R" are colored in to appear being tied to card.
5. The outer circle at the intersecting point suddenly changes from thin to thick and not gradually, which is usually the case. This same circle has been darkened on the stamp and is a poorly formed circle, to the left of the expert mark "Karásek."
6. There is an "O" cancel on the stamp noting it was part of another cancel.

7. The postal rate for post cards was 20h, not 30h.

8. Although not shown, the card was printed by G. Jilovsky--Praha XI in 1925! The Hradčany series was used only through 1920.

9. There is no visible date in the cancel.

EXPERTS' BACK STAMPS AND OBLIQUE LIGHTING

By Henry Hahn

How often have we been cautioned against buying unexpertized better grade stamps? However, more often than not such expertizing consists merely of an expert's back stamp (or front stamp) rather than a signed certificate. Backstamps have been forged in great profusion. Forged back stamps of two of our most prominent experts are pictured in currently available literature.* Certificates, of course, are far better, particularly if they are in the form of a "PHOTO-ATTEST," i.e. photograph tied to an expertization certificate.

And yet, experts aren't infallible. Knowledge, and our own ability to test for genuineness, must be our ultimate weapon against the vermin of our hobby — the forger.

I, too, nearly fell victim to an expert's mark recently. I shall not name the expert whose mark graced the piece in question, as he has not yet had an opportunity to examine the item and make a determination as to whether his backstamp is forged, whether he made an error, or whether I am mistaken.

The item in question is a desirable one — joined types II and III of the Agriculture and Science issue of 1923 on a parcel clipping. The item, priced rather attractively, was presented to me for purchase at CAPEX. A quick look at the characteristic features of types II and III (stems in the linden leaves, etc.), a casual look at the postmark, a glance at the expert's stamp and a superficial examination by eye of the perfs quickly brought out the wallet.

A less frantic examination at home under a low power binocular microscope revealed what is illustrated in Fig. 1 at roughly 2×. I saw the following: significant vertical misalignment of the design, suspicious perforation outlines in the lower half of the openings, and occasional misregistry with the upper halves. Slight misalignment of the design is not uncommon, and there can be tension on the sheet during the perforating process giving rise to some disfiguration of the perforation openings — but this combination certainly called for a closer look.

Going to somewhat higher magnification, Fig. 2, shows the mismatch (offset) more clearly, and again shows the lower outlines of the connected perforations to differ from the upper ones. However, this view does not show much detail concerning the joining of the perforations.

That, together with a somewhat more revealing illustration of the outlines is far more easily seen using oblique lighting (light axis about 30 degrees to the horizontal). The stamp must then be rotated under the camera or microscope to best reveal what we are looking for. In this case the light axis was parallel to the suspect perforation line. As shown in Fig. 3, there is now no doubt that something "is rotten in Denmark." A confirming illustration at higher magnification, shown in Fig. 4, reveals the joining technique. This technique resembles repairs of torn stamps as currently practiced in numerous European "repair shops." The dropping of some of the applied paper fibers into the perforation holes is of course a further dead give-away.

The PODMOKLY postmark with indistinct date, as seen in Figs. 1 and 2 is a truly fine match-up. Could it be that the item was once a true joined type that became separated, subsequently mounted on the piece and then repaired? This possibility is supported by the fact that virtually the entire postmark is located on the stamp. The card contains merely a small arc of the outer circle, easily added by the forger. All letters, as seen in Fig. 1 are on the stamps.

I am still continuing in my examination of this item. This preliminary report is made primarily to illustrate the application of oblique lighting in examining perforation joints and the importance of not placing undue reliance on expert marks.

* "FORGERIES OF CZECHOSLOVAK POSTAGE STAMPS" by J. Karásek, Z. Kvasnička, and B. Pauliček (Tr. J. Verner and H. Hahn), Soc. for Czecho. Phil., 1986, p. 9-15f.



Figure 1. Low magnification,
general view.

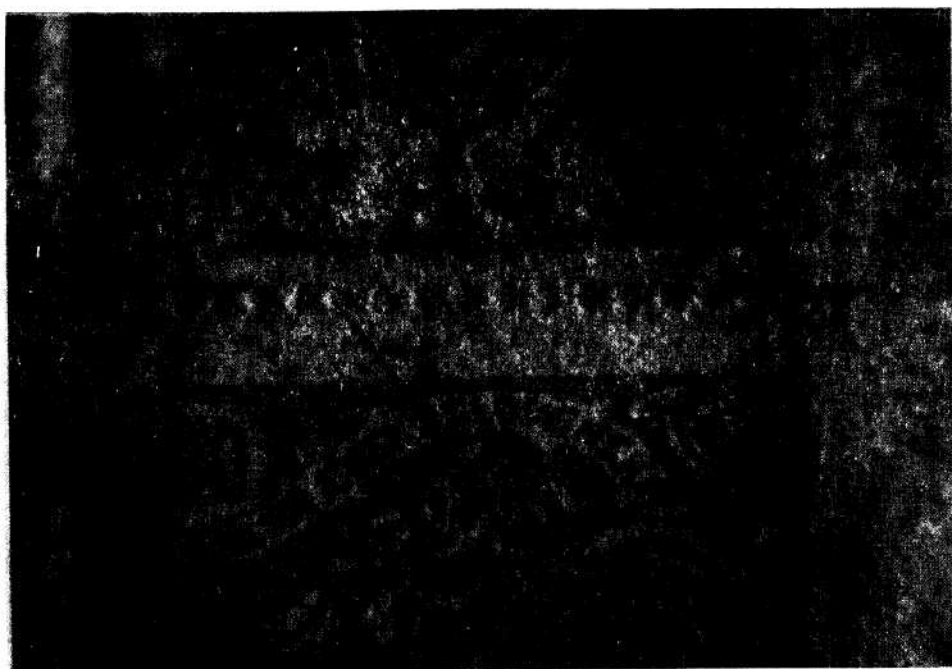


Figure 2. Connected perforations showing differences in upper and lower outlines and horizontal mismatch (arrow).

ADVERTISEMENT

CZECHOSLOVAKIA MINT, used, FDC, Bohemia, East Silesia, Slovakia, Austria, Canada, DDR, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Poland, Russia, each list \$1.00. Interart, 3673 Keenan Crescent, Mississauga, Ont., Canada L4T 3M1. New issue service. Visa, Mastercard. Complete year 1986/47-4S/S/Mint/\$95,00, used \$65.00.



Figure 3. Joined perforations viewed under oblique lighting at optimal angle.

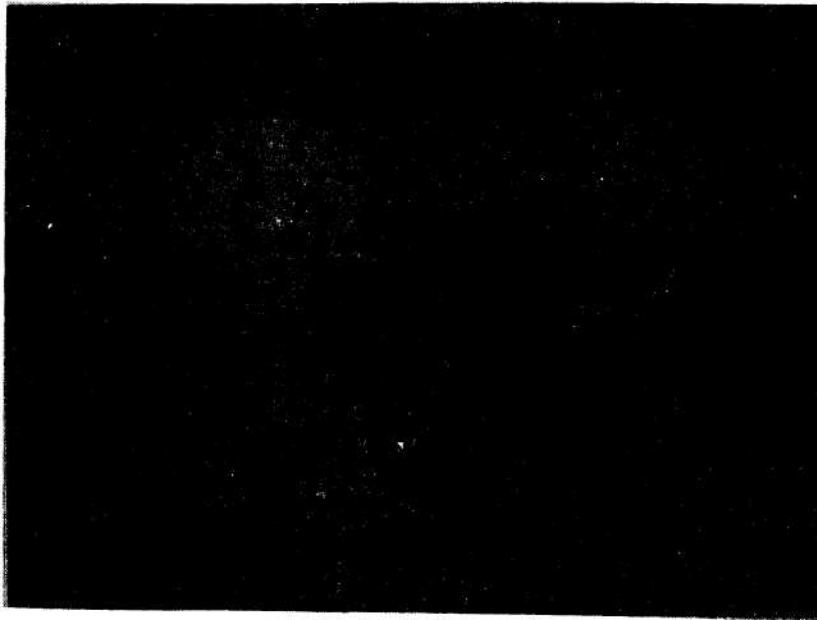


Figure 4. High magnification view showing "joining" and fibers inside openings.

TAPS

In the November 1987 issue, we listed August Hrivnak (member number 9) as ailing. We have recently learned that he passed away on November 18 in Green Valley, Arizona. He was 93 years old.

As past master of the Masonic Lodge and former Commander of the American Legion, he served the Legion for sixty years through two wars. As a civilian, he was a member of Telephone Pioneers of America. He retired as assistant superintendent of Western Electric in Cicero, IL.

Our condolences go out to his son, George Rivnak, P.O. Box 2455, 9 Juniper Creek Blvd., Pinehurst, NC 28374.

A WORD ABOUT BOUND SPECIALISTS

We are currently in the process of binding the 1985 and 1986 SPECIALISTS for distribution to our patron members. This is a function the Society has been performing for years. This year, unfortunately, we ran into a problem.

There was a shortage of 1985 SPECIALISTS and we had to ask the patron members to send us their own unbound copies, so we could bind them. Most of them responded favorably. However, we are still short a few volumes. We need the following:

12 copies of the Sept. 1985 issue.

15 copies of the Oct. 1985 issue.

15 copies of the Nov. 1985 issue.

If anyone can supply any or all of the above, the Society would be extremely grateful. Please send them to: Mirko Vondra, 1511 Clearview Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601.

NOTICE

The continuing serialized translation of the Allegory Section of Monografie II will resume in next month's issue of the SPECIALIST.

1988 DUES REMINDER

Our re-elected treasurer, Ludvik Svoboda, wishes to remind all members that their membership dues should be paid NOW. These dues are the same as the ones listed on the Application for Membership. They have been the same for the last three years and your prompt payment will assure that they will remain unchanged for at least another year. Mail your dues checks to:

Ludvik Z. Svoboda
4766 South Helena Way
Aurora, Colorado 80015

Remember that all dues paid after February now carry a late charge of 25 cents for every month of lateness. Members who fail to pay their dues by the end of June will be automatically dropped from the membership roster and deliveries of the SPECIALIST to them will be discontinued. Don't let this happen to you!

REMEMBER!

PRAGA '88 IS JUST SIX MONTHS AWAY!!

MEET EDWARD (JACK) BENCHIK

When Jack Benchik joined our Society, he was 12 years old. It was 1950 and he was living in a small town in southern Indiana called Shelbyville. Later, as a second lieutenant in the Army Corps of Engineers, he served duty in Virginia, Korea, Texas, Indiana, Germany, and New York. While at Fort Belvoir, VA, he married and took his new wife with him to Germany. While there on military duty, their son, Ted, was born. A year and a half later while in New York, his wife gave birth to twin daughters, Jacquelyn and Marilyn.

Following his discharge from the Army, Jack earned his M.S. at Long Island University and worked for Grumman Aerospace Corp. Later he became Safety Director for South Bend, IN. Currently, he is performing the engineering surveillance on a 1.4 billion dollar contract for the U.S. Department of Defense.



Philatelically, Jack is a collector of Czechoslovakia, U.S., Ireland, Vatican City, and the former British colony of Zululand. He also collects Van Gogh paintings on stamps because he claims he cannot afford the paintings themselves. Topically, he is interested in Indiana, geology, the military, engineering, and President John F. Kennedy. His specialty comprises the stamps and postal history of Slovakia. As a former editor of the *SPECIALIST*, he is presently its advertising manager and also serves as chairman of the Society's Slovakia Section. Until recently, he wrote the weekly stamp column for Cleveland's daily newspaper, the *Cleveland Press*.

Jack has had experience in various capacities involving the U.S. Postal Service. During his college days, he spent several Christmas vacations as a letter carrier. While in the Army, he served as Postal Officer for a construction engineering company in Korea and for a combat transport and supply battalion in an infantry division in Germany.

His other hobby is heraldry. He is Captain-of-Arms in the American College of Heraldry. He designed the official seal for Portage Township, St. Joseph County, which is the third largest in Indiana. The Township includes the City of South Bend, the University of Notre Dame, St. Mary's College, and Holy Cross Junior College.

In addition to his two hobbies, he has been involved in such activities as Eagle Scout with Bronze Palm and Scoutmaster of two Boy Scout troops. He was until recently national president of the University of Notre Dame Band Alumni Association, having played tuba as a student. He is also past president of the South Bend Traffic Commission, former president of the American Society of Safety Engineers (Michiana chapter) and previous chairman of the South Bend Chamber of Commerce, Safety Section. He is listed in *Who's Who* in the Midwest and is a member of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels.

Jack is a civic and philatelic activist in the true sense of the word. After an absence of several years, the Society is glad to welcome him back into the fold. Hopefully, he is with us to stay!

U.S. ARMY POST OFFICES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

By Capt. Edward J. Benchik, USAR

At the end of World War II, the American Army concluded part of its advance over the Axis Powers in Czechoslovakia. From May 1945 until January 1946 the U.S. Army had 13 post offices in the western extremity of Czechoslovakia. During the later part of 1945 and the beginning of 1946, the U.S. Army withdrew from Czechoslovakia back into Germany and Austria as prescribed by the provisions of the Yalta and subsequent agreements. Not all of these Army Post Offices remained in the same location as most of them were servicing infantry and armored units, which were always on the move. Therefore three of the APO's (2, 258 and 445) were each located in two different Czechoslovak towns and two of the APO's (79 and 94) were in three different Czechoslovak towns as shown by the table below:

APO	Town	Opened	Closed	Unit
2	Pilsen (Plzeň)	12 May 45	8 Jun 45	2nd Inf Div
2	Domazlice	8 Jun 45	11 Jun 45	2nd Inf Div
5	Winterberg (Vojranov)	11 May 45	21 May - 45	5th Inf Div
26	Wallern	24 May 45	15 Aug 45	26th Inf Div
79	Eger (Cheb)	4 Jun 45	14 Jun 45	79th Inf Div
79	Asch (Aš)	14 Jun 45	13 Jul 45	79th Inf Div
79	Franzensbad (Frantiskovy Lázně)	13 Jul 45	10 Aug 45	79th Inf Div
80	Marienbad (Marianské Lázně)	25 Sep 45	Dec 45	80th Inf Div
94	Strakonitz (Strakonice)	11 Jun 45	5 Jul 45	94th Inf Div
94	Schütrenhofen (Sušice)	5 Jul 45	28 Jul 45	94th Inf Div
94	Prachatice	28 Jul 45	Dec 45	94th Inf Div
137	Pilsen (Plzeň)	11 May 45	3 Oct 45	*
205	Pilsen (Plzeň)	Aug 45	20 Sep 45	*
254	Schütrenhofen (Sušice)	11 May 45	14 Jun 45	4th Armd Div
258	Rokycany	11 Jun 45	Jul 45	8th Armd Div
258	Holisov	Jul 45	26 Sep 45	8th Armd Div
305	Pilsen (Plzeň)	11 May 45	Jan 46	V Corps
412	Plan (Plana U. Mar. Lázní)	16 May 45	15 Sep 45	16th Armd Div
445	Konstantinovy	11 May 45	13 May 45	97th Inf Div
445	Tachau (Tachov)	13 May 45	19 May 45	97th Inf Div

() Indicates the Czechoslovak name of the town when the Germanized version appeared in the official record.

*Title of using military unit unknown, probably a garrison type outfit instead of a tactical unit as are all the others listed.

All the Army Post Offices in this article were from New York. If New York is not indicated in the cancellation, the APO can still be identified as the APO numbers that were assigned to New York were only for New York. No other of the cities that had APO's were given the numbers for New York. Each city that had an APO was assigned APO numbers only for that particular city. For example, if the postmark read "APO 137" it was from New York. There wasn't an APO 137 from San Francisco, Seattle, Miami or New Orleans.

The entire record is not complete because in some instances the month is known for either the opening or closing an an APO at a certain location. However the exact data of that month is not known. Those of you who have covers with the APO number in the time frame indicated can be sure the cover was posted in Czechoslovakia.

DOUBLE STRIKE RESULTS IN PRETTY PERFORATION PATTERN

By Henry Hahn

Minor perforation errors such as one or two missing perforation openings resulting from breakage of perforation needles are not uncommon in the Dove issue. Most collectors are familiar with the much sought-after horizontal comb progression, which is well described in the literature,* and which in recent years has shown up in exhibits in large blocks.

Major perforation errors include double and triple strikes of the comb and large shifts. According to Monografie 2,** these major perforation errors occur mainly in the 10h (both green and olive) and in the 20h denominations.

A somewhat unusual double strike is shown below.

(illustration of block of 4 here)

The block of four is of the 25h, type 1, comb perforated with normal vertical progression. The double strike of the first comb is of such spacing as to provide a downward shift of precisely 1/2 perforation spacing. This, to those of us with creative imaginations, provides the stamp with a lovely set of side curls. If you don't see this my way, you must at least admit that this is one of the prettier major perforation errors on record.

*Monografie Československých Známek, vol. 2, pp. 214–217.

**Ibid, p. 253.



EDITOR'S NOTES

On Sales Circuits

All of you who read the SPECIALIST regularly are aware of the plight of our Sales and Exchange Division and the appeals that both your former President and your Circuit Manager made for more sales and exchange material. At our December Board meeting that plight was dramatized with these statistics:

During 1987, a total of twelve circuits were sent out to the members of which ten were retired. Presently, there are about seven in circulation with barely no philatelic material on hand to make up another circuit. Translated into plain language, this means that once the seven circuits complete their rounds and are retired, there will be no more books to circulate unless our members do something about it.

What can YOU do to keep this very valuable and beneficial service alive?

First, you should contact your Circuit Manager, Wolfgang Fritzsche, P.O. Box 8, Canandaigua, NY 14424, and request blank circuit books. He will respond promptly. If you are a newcomer to the Division and have never done this before, he will send you a list of Sales and Exchange Rules and Regulations. There is no charge for this service. Your membership in the Society automatically entitles you to participation.

Second, go through your stock books, your glassine envelopes, your shoe boxes containing duplicates and sort them out by country. Then mount your duplicate stamps or other material like F.D.C.'s or pieces on cover or blocks of four or specialty items like proofs, essays, blackprints, etc., in our Society sales books which can be obtained from Mr. Fritzsche at 50 cents per book plus postage. The books hold 120 stamps each. The total Scott's value of a sales book should not exceed \$300. Remember, these circuits are now fully insured by our Society through a reputable agency and we have to abide by its rules and regulations.

Third, when your book or books are retired from circulation and returned to Mr. Fritzsche, he will send you a statement of sales realized from your submissions and settle your account. We are proud to announce that during the past few decades, all book owners have been paid their proceeds without delay. From those proceeds, a small 15 percent fee is deducted which helps maintain the Division and ultimately supports the Society.

If you want this service to continue as one of your membership benefits, you should support it by sending duplicate philatelic material to your Circuit Manager as explained above. It helps you convert surplus or unwanted material into cash and helps your Society's long-term activities and functions.

On Our Library

In addition, our Society maintains a philatelic library for the benefit of its members. Every few years the SPECIALIST publishes a list of books and other printed matter available through the library along with its rules and regulations. For example, a member may borrow any book on that list for any period of time up to ten weeks for a rental fee of 20 cents per week. This fee, as in the case of the 15 percent commission in our sales circuit, is one of those activities that helps support the Society.

It has come to the Board's attention that in the last two years there has been a gradual decline in membership interest in our library's facilities. Lately that interest has dwindled to a point where the librarian has suggested disposing of some of our material that simply is not circulating.

To help make its decision, the Board is asking you, as members, to send in your comments and suggestions. Here is the way it will work: In next month's issue, the SPECIALIST will publish a complete list of all printed matter that is available. Please look over that list carefully. Then check the applicable statement and supply the

answers requested:

- 1. I like what is on the list, I use the library facilities and plan to continue using them.
- 2. The library should dispose of the following material: (List what you think is not needed).
- 3. The library should be updated with the following material: (List what you think should be added).
- 4. I have not used the library heretofore but, if updated as per my suggestion, I would make use of it.
- 5. I have not and do not plan to use the library regardless of what is in it.

Do NOT send in the above answers until after you have looked over the list that will appear in next month's SPECIALIST. Your answers should then be mailed to the librarian, Richard Palaschak, 4050 Carbury Court, Chantilly, VA 22021.

SLOVAKIA SPECIALTY COLLECTORS

WANTED

By Jack Benchik

All members of the Society who are interested in Slovakia as a philatelic specialty are requested to write to Jack Benchik at P.O. Box 555, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Tell him what you collect of Slovakia, such as postal history, Slovak town cancels on Austrian and Hungarian stamps, stampless and/or first day flight covers from Slovak cities, or Slovakia stamps of the 1939-1945 era with perforation, watermark and printing varieties, plate numbers and blocks, mixed franking, overprint varieties, coupons and positions, postal stationary, etc.

Jack Benchik would also like to hear about what research projects you might have in mind or goals that the new Section should accomplish. If you have any questions about Slovakia stamps and/or its postal history, send him your inquiry. On this subject, there is no such thing as a stupid question. He will either try to provide you with an answer or refer you to a source that can. If you are an expert in any particular aspect of Slovakia, let him know. And if you are not a Society member but have expertise on Slovakia, write him anyway. Your membership in the Society is but a short application away.

NEW ISSUES

By G. M. van Zanten — Courtesy ARTIA of PRAGUE

BICENTENARY OF THE BIRTH OF J. E. PURKYNĚ

A 7 Kčs stamp was issued on September 30 for the above event. Design was by Jiří Mikula and engraving was entrusted to Josef Herčík. Rotary recess combined with multicolor photogravure was employed by the Post Printing Office in Prague to produce these 30×23mm stamps in sheets of 50 units.

This year's calendar of cultural anniversaries features the name of an important Czech personality — Jan Evangelista Purkyně, who was born 200 years ago on October 17, 1787, and died on July 28, 1869. He was the greatest Czech 19th-century naturalist, philosopher, pantheist and national revivalist of great influence. He worked as a professor of physiology at the Universities in Wroclaw and Prague; he also devoted himself to biology, introduced experimental methods in tuition and set up laboratories. He concerned himself with problems of eyesight and the defects of vision, and he contributed significantly to optometry and medical science. He made a number of discoveries, some of which bear his name. He studied the development of the cells, embryos, etc. He was the co-founder of the Czech Medical Journal (*Časopis lékařů českých*) appearing under the same name to this day, and the medical society bears his

name in its title; he was active in the scientific world and in culture; in addition to scientific publications, he translated Schiller's and Goethe's poems and devoted himself to Slavonic literature. Jan Evangelista Purkyně deserves great credit for the emancipation of the Czech Nation.

The stamp features his portrait on the left with a view of Charles University and a symbolical presentation of scientific experiments.



**70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT OCTOBER REVOLUTION
 AND
 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S.S.R.**

Two 50h stamps were issued for the above events on November 6, 1987. Design was by Jan Lidral and graphic artist Petr Míšek. The stamps were printed in sheets of 50 with dimensions 40×23mm. Printing method was rotary recess, combined with multicolor photogravure by the Post Printing Office in Prague.

The first stamp shows a portrait of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin and a symbolic composition; engraving by Josef Herčík.

The second stamp features a symbolic picture of a hammer & sickle and a five-pointed star; engraving by Václav Fajt.



BRATISLAVA HISTORICAL MOTIFS

On October 1, 1987, a set of two postage stamps was issued in the above annual series in sheets of four stamps measuring 40×26mm. Engraving of the 3 Kčs stamp was by Miloš Ondráček, with design by Ivan Schurmann. The 4 Kčs shows a work by H. Mayer with engraving by Martin Činovský. Multicolor flat recess print was used by the Post Printing Office in Prague.

- 3 Kčs — Shows Renaissance oriel of the Palace — a detail of its decoration — 1552–1562. With a single colored detail from a Hans Mayer woodcut in the gutter, which is common to both values.
- 4 Kčs — Depicts a partial view of Bratislava in 1563, this view is actually the first true picture of the town in a panoramic view, the original is in the possession of the Bratislava Municipal Art Gallery.

From now onward, the size of the Bratislava stamps will be the same as those for Prague Castle.



BRATISLAVSKÝ HRAD



BRATISLAVSKÝ HRAD



WORKS OF ART ON POSTAGE STAMPS

On November 18, 1987, the annual set of Art on stamps was issued in sheets of four stamps measuring 40×50mm. Printed by the Post Printing Office in Prague employing the multicolor flat recess print.

- 1 Kčs — Entitled "Enclosure of Dreams" 1941 featuring historical motor vehicles by Kamil Lhoták, who was born in 1912, he divides his activities between painting and book illustration. He recreates a quaint world in his pictures, the world of the beginnings of technical civilization. The original of this work is in the National Gallery in Prague. Engraving by Miloš Ondráčik.
- 2 Kčs — "Tulips" 1944 by Ester Simerová-Martinčková, born in 1909, the original of this work hangs in the Bratislava Art Gallery. Engraving was by Josef Herčík.
- 3 Kčs — Part of a triptych with Bohemian landscape 1935 by Josef Lada 1887–1957, this stamp also celebrates the centenary of Lada's birth. The original of this work hangs in the National Gallery in Prague. Engraving by Josef Herčík. Josef Lada was perhaps the most typically Czech of Czech artists, he also illustrated Jaroslav Hašek's satirical novel "The Adventures of the good Soldier Schweik."

- 4 Kčs — “Accordion Player” in cubist style 1913 by Josef Čapek 1887–1945 here again the stamp celebrates the centenary of his birth. The original of this painting is in the National Gallery in Prague. Engraving is by Jiří Bouda.
- 5 Kčs — “Self Portrait 1944” by Jiří Trnka 1912–1969. The original of this work is in the National Gallery in Prague. Engraving was by Václav Fajt. Jiří Trnka was also an illustrator and maker of lovely puppet films.



CZECHOSLOVAK STAMP DAY

A 1 Kčs stamp was issued on December 18, 1987, for the above event, the stamp also greets PRAGA '88. It features Jakub Obrovský 1882–1949 one of the first designers of Czechoslovak postage stamps. Rotary recess print combined with multicolor photogravure. One sheet comprises 39 stamps and 8 tabs, dimensions of the stamp are 49×19mm and the tabs 23×19mm. Engraving was by Miloš Ondráček.

In addition to Obrovský's portrait the stamp shows in the center the lion from the design of the 1919 stamp and on the right a sketch of a lion. The tabs bear the inscription — in Czech — “Centenary of the National Philatelic Movement in Czechoslovakia.”



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